FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iran fired another missile at Baghdad on 27 March in retaliation for recent Iraqi air attacks on Tehran and other Iranian cities, IRNA announced. An Iraqi raid on a residential area in eastern Tehran the night of 26-27 March had killed or wounded seven people, according to the agency. Iraqi officials confirmed the fresh wave of air attacks in statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, asserting that Iraqi planes raided Tehran, Qazvin, and Kashan after earlier "destructive strikes" against Basatin, Esfahan, Hamadan, Gilan-e Gharb, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. Meanwhile, an Iranian Petroleum Ministry source cited by Damascus radio denied Iraq's claim that its Air Force hit two more maritime targets in the Gulf on the night of 25-26 March.

As for the land war, an Iraqi military communique broadcast by the Voice of the Masses maintained that Iran used the approximate equivalent of 15 divisions of Revolution Guards and regular forces in its recent offensive, "most" of whom were "wiped out" by Iraq's Armed Forces.

On the diplomatic front, a Saudi official spokesman urged Iran to respond to Arab League and GCC calls for peace and an end to the war, according to a statement carried by Riyadh radio.

Israel

Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon declared that if Iraq builds a nuclear reactor that threatens Israel's security Israel will "bomb it," Jerusalem radio reported. Sharon described Iraq as a "dangerous enemy" and dismissed descriptions that the Iraq-Jordan-Egypt axis is "moderate."

Syria

Welcoming the Arab League Council's decision to speed up financial aid to Lebanon, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' contended that Syria's position "tipped the balance" in securing this "great achievement." Al-Shar', who was speaking at a press conference reported by Damascus radio, also claimed that Syria's contacts with Iran have resulted in the latter's commitment to "not entertain any expansionist designs on any inch of Arab territory."

Jordan

King Husayn and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez reviewed the Middle East issue and assessed efforts to achieve a settlement of the "region's dispute" during their 26 March talks in Madrid, Amman television reported.

Sudan

Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman denied recent reports that Ethiopian Falashas were transported from eastern Sudan to Israel, SUNA reported. 'Uthman added that these accusations are aimed at "driving a wedge" between Sudan and the Arab world.

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Bombs Explode in Kabul Stores Catering to Soviets
HK261144 Hong Kong AFP in English 1136 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Islamabad, March 26 (AFP) — Several bombs went off in stores catering for Soviet shoppers in Kabul last week, killing or wounding many Soviet customers including women and children, Western diplomats said here today, quoting "multiple sources".

The first went off in a shop owned by a Russian-speaking Afghan and killed at least three Soviet citizens, including one officer. The diplomats said up to 25 people may have been wounded in the incident.

They said a number of Soviet women and children were seen being taken away in ambulances by Afghan troops who had cordoned off the area after the bomb attack.

Four days later on Thursday, a bomb blew up a clothes shop catering to Soviet clientele near Kabul's Pamir restaurant. Four Soviet men were killed or gravely wounded while three Soviet women were seriously injured, the soruces said.

An East European diplomat's wife was quoted by a diplomats here as saying, "I have told my son not to visit Kabul during his vacation this summer."

The attacks, which marked the run up to Afghanistan's new year "Nawroz" on March 21, triggered renewed fear among Soviet residents who had just started to relax, the sources said. The guerrillas also launched a half-hour attack last Tuesday on Kabul airport but the insurgents lacked fire power and no major damage was reported, the diplomats said.

Two dozen helicopters at Kabul airport were seen ferrying troops in various directions last week while a convoy of tanks and armoured personnel carriers was spotted heading towards Logar, south of the capital.

In the northern Panjsher Valley, stronghold of guerrilla chief Ahmad Shah Masud, the diplomats said a three-pronged attacked launched this month by Soviet forces had failed but another Soviet offensive was expected in mid-April.

They said the Soviet troops were apparently trying to seal off the southern approaches to the Panjsher and consolidate their positions in the lower reaches of the valley in order to "completly eliminate" the Masud forces.

Demonstration Against U.S. Intervention Held
LD222000 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Excerpts] In a meeting today, more than 300,000 workers of Kabul city expressed their deep hatred and indignation, chanting slogans such as: "Death to U.S. criminal imperialism"; "A curse upon Reagan, this murderer of thousands of Afghans, and upon his criminal and warmongering administration"; and with one voice condemned the undeclared war of imperialism, promoted foremost by the Reagan administration, and his shameless crimes and bestial hostility. Today the atmosphere in Kabul city was filled with the cries and protests of hundreds of thousands of workers of Kabul city against the intervention of U.S. imperialism and its aggression and crimes against our homeland, people, and revolution. The earth and sky was filled with the shouts of "Death to America."

This morning, hundreds of thousands of workers, peasants, intellectuals, religious leaders, artisans, students, men, women, old women, and youths in united ranks with clenched fists and enemy-burning slogans moved to the center of the city. The waves of this human flood joined at the Ariana crossroads and then the march began.

The BAKHTAR Information Agency correspondents report that the Kabul citizens in this great march — which was led by Mahmud Barialay, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Zohur Razmju, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Kabul City Party Committee; Mir Sahib Karwal, secretary of the party Central Committee; Abdul Majid Sarboland, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; a number of members of the party Central Committee and Revolutionary Council, and a number of party and state cadres; some heads of zones; some secretaries of the provincial party committees, and some governors of the country's provinces — carried hundreds of anti-imperialist slogans, cartoons, friendship slogans with fraternal people and about peace, and photographs of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and condemned with revolutionary and patriotic fervor the inhumane and inhuman actions of imperialism in our beloved and free country.

The shouts of "Death to America," "Death to Reagan," which shook Kabul today are a reflection of the voices of millions of Afghans in deep hostility against the world-devouring United States and in unreserved defense of their country's revolutionary leadership.

The BIA correspondents add that before the beginning of the march, a great meeting of Kabul citizens was held at the Ariana crossroads in which the deputy head of the Kabul City Party Committee and the deputy head of the PDPA Central Committee Department of International Relations, spoke:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker in Dari] Death to the murderer Reagan; death to Mr Reagan, this killer of our children.

Comrades, friends and noble workers of Kabul. Seven years have elapsed since the victory of the April national democratic revolution. During this time all heretic forces in the world, including international reaction and imperialism, hegemonism, Zionism, the reactionary states of the region, headed by the criminal imperialism of the United States, twist like wounded wolves, howl, and are continuing their lunatic undeclared war against the April Revolution and the people of Afghanistan.

Mr Reagan, the head of the band of gangsters who are leading the present U.S. Administration, every year marks a day called Afghanistan day. They speak of pretentious friendship for the Afghans. But let us pay attention to a statement made 7 years

ago by Mr Reagan who, at that time was also a prominent figure in the U.S. Administration. When he heard 7 years ago about the victory of the April Revolution, he immediately began to look for Afghanistan on the Continent of Africa. Mr Reagan talks of friendship with the Afghans. He speaks of friendship with the religion of Islam. This bloodthirsty American master did not know 7 years ago where and in which continent of the world was the poor and backward Afghanistan. But today one would think that Mr Reagan is a Muslim from father and grandfather and that the fervor of friendship and kindness for Afghanistan is at the depth of his heart.

So noble compatriots! During these 7 years after the victory of the April Revolution, U.S. imperialism has officially given $1 billion to the Afghan rebels. So compatriot, you should realize why this $1 billion has been given to the rebels. If this $1 billion were spent on toys for children, it would have been enough for all children of the world. If this $1 billion were spent on irrigating barren lands, millions of hungry people in our homeland would have food. Pens, notebooks and paper; schools, hospitals, and factories are not built with this $1 billion, but tens of thousands of tons of gunpowder and explosives, weapons, and ammunition are provided with this $1 billion for the destruction of your homeland and for the death of your innocent compatriots. We announce with a clear voice that the workers of our homeland are confidently carrying out the task of progress and development of their country. Our compatriots, with the help of their international friends headed by the great Soviet Union, are striving ahead in building a prosperous and just society. Let the Reagans, the Thatchers, the owners of international capital; the heretics of Beijing — let them howl, cry, and fuss, the caravan of the prosperity and progress of our homeland is striving ahead.

[March organizer, in Dari] Now we ask comrade Asad Keshtmand to deliver his speech.

[Asad Keshtmand in Dari] Greetings and honor to you that, with the expression of your human indignation and hatred, you take the voice of our people to the ears of the people of the world against the interventions of imperialism. This is the anti-imperialist voice of hatred and indignation for those people who have risen from blood and fire; blood and fire which U.S. imperialism has unleashed against our revolution, people, and homeland. U.S. imperialism has set about one of the most savage aggressive and interventionist operations in contemporary times against our country. More than $1 billion in aid from U.S. imperialism for murdering bands, bandits, those lacking morals — this is indicative of the clear antihuman essence of U.S. imperialism.

In reality, U.S. imperialism relies on murderers, saboteurs, and counterrevolutionary bands who have not until this moment put forward any realistic and humane alternative for our society. Let the bosses of the White House, the Pentagon, and London come here and see the noble and courageous youth of our homeland. Let them see what sincere and high hopes are hidden in the noble hearts of these sons of the homeland.

Now we ask Comrade Abdul Aziz, worker in the construction unit of the Ministry of Education and Training, to read out the resolution of today's grand meeting:

[Abdul Aziz, in Dari] The participants of the grand march and meeting of the workers of Kabul city for the condemnation of the interference of imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism in the internal affairs of the DRA:

Seven years have elapsed since the victory of the April Revolution. The people of Afghanistan, under the pioneering revolutionary leadership of the PDPA, and despite problems, shortcomings, and difficulties, have, in this relatively short time, achieved great gains. Were it not for the intervention of imperialism through the infiltration of counterrevolutionary bands from the soil of Pakistan, Iran, and China, our victories would have been greater. Experience has shown the righteousness of the aims of the PDPA and the falsehood of the allegations by the counterrevolution and of their idle and nonsensical talk regarding the defense of Islam and freedom. They have shown nothing but the creation of an atmosphere of terror, plunder, killing, the destruction of sacred places and public property, opposition to social progress, and the collection of private wealth.

No power on earth can break our devotion. We announce to the organizers of the imperialist undeclared war that the people of Afghanistan, for the sake of their national interest and of class solidarity with their friends, are choosing (?their path) and will not allow world devouring imperialists to give them orders.

The Soviet Union is the traditional and historic friend of the people of Afghanistan and on the basis of this friendship has given, and gives, internationalist fraternal assistance to the people of Afghanistan. Long live the people of Afghanistan. Forward toward the realization of the aims of the April Revolution. Long live the unbreakable and fraternal Afghan-Soviet friendship. Death to U.S. imperialism. Forward toward the complete elimination of the conspiracies and intrigues of imperialism against the DRA. Death to Mr Reagan. Death to the enemies of mankind. Death to Reagan, the murderer. Death to Mr Reagan, this murderer of our children. [end recording]

After the conclusion of the meeting, the marchers walked in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul and chanted the slogans: "Death to Reagan." "Death to U.S. imperialism." "Death to the Chinese hegemonists." "Death to the Pakistani militarists." "Death to rebels, these professional killers."

The BIA correspondents report from the provinces that today in all provinces of the country hundreds of thousands of our working compatriots raised their voice in protest against the intervention of U.S. imperialism in the internal affairs of our homeland; and throughout the country, in the course of meetings and marches, sent curses to criminal America and to Reagan, this planner of crimes and the killer of thousands of Afghans.

Security Forces Kill Rebels, Capture Equipment

LD251833 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] During a successful operation, which was recently carried out by the courageous security forces in the region of Kuh-e Safi mountain, a number of the savage rebels were eliminated, a number of them were captured and 52 mortars, 32 DShK's, 5

recoilless rifles, 11 antiaircraft units, 15 heavy machineguns, 3 air defense machineguns, 20 rocket launchers, along with 705 rounds of ammunition, 604 hand grenades, 516 antipersonnel mines, 161 antivehicle machines [as heard], 116 assorted weapons, 1 communication unit, 78,620 rounds of DShK ammunition along with 62 ammunition belts, 539 mortar mines, with 51 warheads and 340 (?fuses), 1,556,400 rounds of assorted ammuniton, 2,343 rounds of ammunition for ZK-1, 1 binocular, 16 food depots, 6 ammunition dumps, 1 truck, and a large quantity of antistate documents, which proved their direct link with imperailist states, were seized from these lunatics. Also 9 DShK's, 6 mortars, 6 mountain and recoilless rifles, 177 rounds of live ammunition, 1 ton of explosive substances, 6 antiaircraft units, 5 ammunition dumps, and 138 antipersonnel mines, which were put at their disposal by their imperialist masters for carrying out death and destruction, were destroyed.

According to a report from the security force in Herat Province as a result of an operation, a number of rebels who resorted to savage and inhuman actions and disrupted the peace and tranquility of the working people of the city and the [name indistinct], Payan-e Ab, Sufian, Daraman, Mahal-e Babaji villages of the Enjil District and various villages in the Kuhestan District, Herat Province, were crushed.

Also as a result of the heroism of the heroic Armed Forces, 10 satanical nests belonging to them in the aforementioned areas, were razed to the ground and an amount of weapons and ammunitions including DShK's, mortars, and mines as well as light weapons of Chinese and U.S. origin were captured from the servants of reaction and imperialism.

Captured Weapons Described

LD262355 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Text] As a result of an operation at Kuh-e Safi mountain, a large number of rebels were eliminated and a number of them were captured. Also during this successful operation a large quantity of weapons, equipment, and antistate documents, proving direct links with imperialist states, were seized. In order to display before you dear compatriots the seized weapons and their quality, we draw your attention to the description of a responsible officer of the Kuh-e Safi operation.

These weapons here, were seized by our heroic Armed Forces during the last few days operations, which were mounted at Kuhe-e Safi mountain. They include heavy and light weapons and assorted ammunition. I would like to describe them to you one by one.

These weapons are air defense weapons. They are called ZK-1's and are made in China. We seized 30 of this type of weapon along with ammunition and complete ammunition belts.

These weapons were in a state of readiness because the rebels had planned to attack the areas of Deh Sabz District and some other parts of Kabul city during New Year's day and thus disrupt the tranquil life of our people. In addition to that we have seized other weapons which are called DShK's. Some 40 of these weapons were seized; there are 28 here which are complete and useable. The rest were destroyed in position.

This is a weapon which is for launching ground missiles. This is a 120mm unit. This unit could have 2 barrels, 4 barrels, 6 barrels, up to 12 barrels. This one here, is an incomplete unit with only 6 barrels. This could be transformed into 12 barrels, as you can see the other 6 barrels could be mounted. And this other one is a complete 12-barreled unit.

According to our intellegence reports, there were two reactive units in the Kuh-e Safi with Mola Shafi. We have seized both of them. The mark of this one is of U.S. origin which is for launching rockets from a far distance up to 14 km.

This one is a single unit from which individual shells are fired. It has two legs and the shell. This also has some other tools with which it is fired. Those tools have not been recovered. The structure of this is similar to 2-inch mortars.

These are 82mm mortars. They are called medium mortars. This mortar can hit targets at 3 kms. This is made in China. These special shells are for mortar with which the houses of the people and state establishments are set on fire by the counterrevolutionaries. They are 82 mm and we have seized four ofthem.

These weapons are called recoilless rifles. These are (?heavy) weapons. We have seized five of these with ammunition. A number of them are American and a number of them are Chinese made.

We can clearly say that the United States and China jointly manufacture these because the ammunition of one could be used in the other.

These machineguns here are tank machineguns in fact; they are also made in China as you could see from their marks. These could be used as tank machineguns and by foot soldiers.

A large amount of these weapons have been supplied to the counterrevolutionaries by China.

These weapons that you see bear different marks. Most of these are supplied by Egypt; we have seized four weapons of this type. This other type of weapon is called a rocket launcher. This is an antitank weapon and is made in Egypt.

These weapons are called Strella. This is an air-defense weapon for destroying aerial targets. This type of weapon also bears different marks. It comes from various countries which have been put at the disposal of the counterrevolution. We seized 12 complete sets of this weapon.

Here we have communication equipment which we seized in various parts of Kuh-e Safi. This unit is called 148-(?English BM). This communication unit can cover a 12 km distance.

In addition there are small communication equipment units that have been put at the disposal of small rebel groups.

Land Distribution Implemented in Nangarhar
LD270012 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] In line with the implementation of the second phase of the democratic land reform and just distribution of water, 3,936 land title deeds have been distributed to landless and small-plot-holding peasants in Nangarhar Province during 1363 [ending 20 March 85].

A BIA correspondent writes that the process of implementation of the second phase of the democratic land and water reform by four operational groups in the central area of Nangarhar Province — Sorkh Rud District, Shinyah Major District; and the Batikowt Subdistrict of the province — with the sincere cooperation of the working peasants of the aforementioned areas is successfully continuing.

The BIA correspondent adds that, during this period, some 24,763 jeribs [1 jerib equals one half of an acre] of land, belonging to 2,898 peasant families have also been assessed by the operational groups in those regions from which 8,556 jeribs was distributed to 1,111 small-plot-holding families free of charge. Also 6 landless and small-plot-holding peasants in the Behsud area in central Nangarhar have received lands and 30 jeribs of first grade land have been distributed to them by the state free of charge.

During 1363, in order to further speed up the implementation of the second phase of the democratic land reform in central Nangarhar Province, 25 peasant councils of villages and 23 agricultural cooperatives have been formed and the implementation of the second phase of the democratic land reform has been carried out in 18 villages of the aforementioned areas. At present, this process is being carried out in another 46 villages of the provincial capital of Nangarhar Province, in Sorkh Rud District, Shinyah Major District, and in Batikowt Subdistrict. The BIA correspondent said that during the last year, some 541 tons of chemical fertilizer and more than 24 tons of improved wheat seeds were distributed to peasants and farmers who have recently received land title deeds.

SRV Defense Minister Arrives, To Meet With Gandhi

BK261248 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] A high-level Vietnamese delegation led by its defense minister, Senior General Van Tien Dung, arrived in New Delhi today on a week-long visit to the country. During his stay in the capital, the Vietnamese defense minister will meet the president, the prime minister, and the defense minister. The delegation will also hold discussions with senior officials of the Defense Ministry on matters of mutual interest.

Offer of Assistance Renewed

BK270328 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] India has renewed its offer of all possible assistance to Vietnam for its national reconstruction. Speaking at a dinner in honor of Vietnamese Defense Minister General Van Tien Dung in New Delhi last night, the defense minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, said India is ready to become partners in shaping Vietnam's future. Mr Rao described Vietnam as a beacon to the poor and the oppressed. He said their triumph in the struggle for freedom was not theirs alone, but the triumph of the will and spirit of man. Earlier, the two defense ministers reviewed the political and economic situation in South Asia.

Home Minister Chavan on Punjab Rule Resolution

BK261629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] All Punjab detainees except those involved in criminal cases are to be released soon. Review of their cases is expected to be completed in a day or two. This was announced by the home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, in the Lok Sabha today. He was replying to a discussion on a resolution extending the president's rule in Punjab for another 6 months which was later approved. The house also passed the Punjab budget and a bill to amend the National Security Act in respect of Punjab and Chandigarh.

Mr Chavan said the Cabinet subcommittee on Punjab may visit some places in the state in the 1st week of next month. Subsequently, it will pay a second visit to some other places in Punjab to hold discussions with all sections of the people in an effort to find an amicable solution. This, he said, is necessary as the Akalis are not the sole representatives of Sikhs.

Mr Chavan said the government attaches top priority to the solution of the Punjab problem and has taken some positive steps in this regard. Apart from release of Akali leaders, the prime minister during his recent visit to Punjab has made important announcements like construction of Thien Dam and a coach factory in Punjab and giving bonus to Punjab farmers. He, however, regretted that the response of Akali leaders has not been what it should be. The home minister said he is prepared to give some more time to the Akali leaders who have been recently released to have consultations among themselves and come to some positive conclusions. The home minister agreed with members that whenever there is an attempt to solve the Punjab problem there is a spate of violent incidents. He said the government will not be deterred by such activities and keep on its efforts to find an amicable solution.

Referring to the demand of holding judicial inquiry into Delhi riots [following assassination of Indira Gandhi], he said the government feels no useful purpose would be served in reopening the old wounds. However, it will not make it a prestige issue if the Akalis make a positive response and the government is convinced that the inquiry is the only hurdle in the way of settlement.

Commenting on the reported move by the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee [SGPC, Sikh Temples Management Committee] to impart training in arms to the Sikh youths, Mr Chavan said he would get authentic report from the SGPC. If it is true, then it is a serious matter.

Participating in the discussion, the minister of state for finance, Mr Janardan Pujari, disclosed that proposed coach factory in Punjab will have an investment of 2,000 million rupees with a capacity to produce 1,000 coaches per year. The factory will provide employment for 10,000 people.

On the Thien Dam project, the government will hold discussions with the planning commission. Mr Pujari also said modalities are being worked for the payment of bonus to farmers in the state.

The house also passed the vote on account for 1985-86 and the supplementary demands for grants for the current year along with the appropriation bill [on Punjab].

During the resumed discussion, most of the members felt that the Punjab tangle could be solved only through negotiated political settlement.

The Communist Party of India-Marxists has welcomed some of the pronouncements of the central government on Punjab and has asked the Akali leadership to respond to them.

The Central Committee of the party adopted a resolution in New Delhi calling upon the Akali leaders to realize the damage their policies have caused to the national unity.

Opposition Figures Urge Akali Cooperation

BK260456 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Farooq Abdulla, has appealed to the Akalis to cooperate with the center in finding a solution to the Punjab tangle and restoring peace there. Addressing a meeting of the National Conference — Farooq group at Naushahra in Rajauri District, Dr Farooq said violence in Punjab during the last 2 years has adversely affected the development of Punjab.

In a statement in Pune, the Janata Party leader, Mr N.G. Gore, also regretted the rigid stand taken by the Akali leaders. He said it will isolate them from the democratic parties in the country.

Sikh Leaders Condemn Murder of Manchanda

BK270358 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The president of Akali Dal Master Tarasingh group, Jathedar Rajpal Singh, and the leader of the Panther's Party, Mr Tejwant Singh, have condemned the murder of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr K.L. Manchanda, in Chandigarh last week. In a statement issued in New Delhi they urged the government to deal firmly with the extremist elements. They said these elements always come in the way of a conducive atmosphere for talks to solve the Punjab problem.

Sikh Leader in London Denies Terrorism Charges

AU261844 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] London, March 26 (AFP) — Sikh leader Jagit Singh Chauhan today rejected accusations that he is a terrorist and insisted that his London-based campaign for the creation of an independent state of "Khalistan" is non-violent.

Dr. Singh, who last June predicted the death of Indira Gandhi after the Indian Army stormed the Golden Temple at Amritsar, denied at a press conference that his movement plans to kill Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Mrs. Gandhi's son and successor.

A recent article in the Bombay magazine *BLITZ* alleged that Sikhs in London close to Dr. Singh were planning to assassinate Mr. Gandhi during a planned visit here in June.

Dr. Singh has written to Home Secretary (interior minister) Leon Brittan, assuring him that his movement is pacifist and non-violent.

Hyderabad Situation Improved; Curfew Relaxed

BK270418 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] In Hyderabad curfew is being relaxed today from 0800 [0230 GMT] to 1100 [0530 GMT] following improvement in the law and order situation in the three police station areas of (Mangalghat), (Asif Nagar), and (Tappa Chapapura). About 20 people were taken into custody yesterday, taking the total of arrests to about 100. Curfew was imposed on the 22d of last following clashes between two groups.

Minister Discusses Mizo Talks, Tripura Situation

BK271023 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] It was officially stated in the Lok Sabha today that the next round of talks with the Mizo National Front leader, Mr Laldenga, will be held in New Delhi in the 2d week of April. Replying to a calling-attention motion moved by Mr Dharampal Singh Malik, Congress-I, and others, the minister of state for home, Mrs Ramdulari Sinha, said details of the discussions cannot be disclosed until the talks are over.

She said the situation in northeastern region is generally under control, barring a few violent incidents in Manipura and Tripura. The minister assured the house that the government is closely monitoring the situation in the region.

Giving details about the incidents in the region, Mrs Ramdulari Sinha pointed out that there has been some increase in the violent activities of the Tripura National Volunteers in Tripura in recent months. The National Socialist Council of Nagaland is another group indulging in violence in Manipura and Nagaland during the year.

Parliament Extends Ban on Defection to Assemblies

BK270430 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The Lok Sabha yesterday unanimously passed a bill to provide for disqualification of members of the assemblies of the union territories on grounds of defection.

The bill seeks to amend the government of Union Territories Act 1963 to make the provision for the constitution amendment act on defection applicable in the case of assemblies of the union territories also.

The home minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, replying to the brief discussion, rejected a member's suggestions that state governments should be asked to enact a similar law to ban defection in the local bodies. He said the center cannot issue any directive to the states, but it is for them to take suitable action.

18 New Nuclear Plants Planned Under 7th Plan

BK271117 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Eighteen new atomic power units are to be set up in the country. The work will commence during the seventh plan. The Lok Sabha was told that 12 units will be of 235-megawatt capacity and the remaining 6 will be of 500-megawatt capacity each.

Of the new units, two will be located at (Ramadbhata) in Rajasthan and two at a new site at (Kaiga) in Karnataka. A final decision is yet to be taken on the location of other units. The prime minister told the house during question hour that a committee has been constituted to select the sites.

BANGLADESH

Delhi Reports 6 Opposition Leaders Arrested

BK270422 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] In Bangladesh at least 6 opposition leaders and 25 demonstrators were arrested in Dhaka on independence day yesterday. They were raising antimartial law slogans at the memorial to the martyrs of the 1971 independence war.

Shanti Bahini Members Surrender to Authorities

BK260401 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] One hundred and fifty-six more members of the so called Shanti Bahini [peace militia] surrendered at Khagrachari District headquarters following joint operation by the Armed Forces, civil administration, and law enforcing agencies. An official handout said in Dhaka last night, out of the total, 38 were members of armed cadre, 62 village panchayat [council] and 18 juba samiti [youth committee] 2 mahila samiti [women's committee], and 34 members of militia bahini [figures as heard].

PAKISTAN

More Portfolios To Remain With Prime Minister

BK261528 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] It has been officially announced in Islamabad today that the portfolios of the Cabinet Secretariat, science and technology, and provincial and frontier areas affairs will also remain with Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

Afghan Mujahidin Successes in Provinces Reported

BK270653 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have attacked the residential areas of Soviet military personnel in Kabul. Reports quoting diplomatic sources in New Delhi say that many Soviet officers were either killed or wounded in last week's attacks. These sources say that Afghan mujahidin also attacked Kabul airport last Tuesday. Two dozen helicopters carrying soldiers to different locations were seen at Kabul airport last week, while a military convoy with tanks and military vehicles was seen going toward Lowgar, south of the capital.

The (?two) pronged attack made by the Soviet-Karmal forces in the Panjsher valley this month has failed. It is expected that Soviet forces will make another attack in late April. Diplomatic sources say that Soviet forces are trying to block the roads leading to (Bazahir) valley from the south and are strengthening their positions on the floor of valley. These sources report that Soviet and Afghan planes are continuously bombing villages in the eastern Afghan province of Konar.

SRI LANKA

Athulathmudali on India, Political Settlement

BK271111 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The Indian prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, has stated publicly that India does not approve of violence. Disclosing this, Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said that we cannot solve our problems by criticizing India. Solutions can be found only by winning over other countries. However, this does not mean that we should accept all the advice that other countries have to offer.

This was stated by the minister of national security when he spoke at Bandaranaike Vidiyalaya [school] in Kegalla yesterday.

Speaking further, Mr Athulathmudali pointed out that today we have to act in a fair and just manner in keeping with international law and safeguarding human rights. The military strategy that we have to follow today is different from that adopted by Prince (Sapumai), when he conquered the Jaffna peninsula.

The minister noted that if a political solution is to be found to the current crisis, the terrorists have to be drawn into discussion. This will be possible only when they realize that they will never be able to achieve victory.

Mr Athulathmudali said that neither the country nor the terrorists benefit from a war which cannot be won. [Words indistinct] stop all violence. He added that, if this was done, the government would stop all antiterrorist activity. If the terrorists are not prepared to give up violence, they would have to suffer the consequences.

Mr Athulathmudali further said that the Sinhalese and Muslim communities should maintain the good name that they have earned over the past year by safeguarding peace. Nearly 130,000 rupees were handed over to Mr Athulathmudali by the district minister of Kegalla, A.M. Seneviratne, toward the national defense fund. Minister Vincent Perera was also present on the occasion.

Bhandari To Meet Jayewardene Before Departure

BK270343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, will have a second round of discussions with President Jayewardene in Colombo before leaving for home this evening. He is also scheduled to meet the leader of the opposition in Sri Lanka parliament, Mr Anura Bandaranaike. Mr Bhandari yesterday had talks with the prime minister, Mr Premadasa, the national security minister, Mr Athulathmudali, the rural industrial development minister, Mr Thondaman, and the minister for home affairs and public administration, Mr Devanayagam. The thrust of the talks centered on defusing the present situation in Sri Lanka and developing the traditional bonds of friendship and bilateral relations. Mr Bhandari also met the leaders of the Buddhist Sangha.

Bandaranaike Calls for Solution of Ethnic Issue
BK241117 Colombo SUN in English 12 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Badulla — Ms. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, leader of the SLFP, said that she wouldn't be surprised if the Eelamists were to ask for separate up-country state similar to the request for a separate state in the North and East, when she addressed a meeting at Bandarawela recently. As such, she urged the government to take action to resolve the ethnic problem by discussions without delaying anymore.

Ms. Bandaranaike said that the government was not prepared for discussions to solve the terrorist problems. "The government is blaming us that we did not give support to erradicate terrorists. This is wrong. If the President and the Prime Minister are prepared to meet the terrorists in the North and East, I am prepared to follow them," she added.

"It was only after this government came into power that the terrorism spread in this country. It is a shame that the govern ment which had failed to solve this problem is still clinging on to power.

"The long outstanding stateless problem and the Katchathivu situations were solved by me after having discussed with the late Indian Prime Minister Ms. Indira Gandhi. But today the situation is different. Even our Prime Minister had stated that he would not have talks with the Indian government in connection with the present situation in this country.

"But within minutes the President had sent the Minister of National Security, Lalith Athulathmudali to have talks with the Indian Prime Minister. At this stage our Prime Minister should have resigned," she pointed out.

Ms. Bandaranaike told that out of the nine provinces the present government is ruling only seven and the balance two provinces are under the terrorists. I would not be surprised if another province in the Hill Country too is taken over by the terrorists, unless the government takes stern action, she said.

The MP for Madawachie M. Senanayake urged the government to hold General Elections and enable them to solve the problem. M.P. for Bandarawela R. M. Appuhamy presided over the meeting.

Reportage, Commentary on Battle Situation

Maritime Target Attack Denied

JN261157 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran — A responsible source at the Iranian Petroleum Ministry today denied the Iraqi regime's claim that it attacked two maritime targets in the Gulf zone earlier this morning.

In an exclusive statement to the SANA correspondent in Tehran, the source described this claim as baseless. He also denied that Khark Island, which is the main Iranian oil terminal in the Gulf, was hit in an Iraqi air raid yesterday.

Yesterday, Iran said it downed three Iraqi planes over the island when the Iraqi aircraft tried to bombard it. However, Iraq denied the downing of these planes in a communique last night.

Missile Attack Ability Outlined

LD261601 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Urumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Pr., March 26, IRNA — The Islamic Republic has the capability of firing several missiles a day at Baghdad, a high ranking Iranian Military official said today.

Deputy chief of the ground forces, Col. Jamali, said "We are capable of pounding the heart of Baghdad with several missiles every day, if it is necessary."

He was speaking at a funeral ceremony for an Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps commander, martyred in the Badr operation.

Iran has so far fired five missiles at the Iraqi capital. It has vowed to carry out firmer retaliation for every Iraqi attack on Iranian cities and commercial ships in the Persian Gulf.

Col. Jamali said the Iraqi regime has "gone mad" for not being able to confront the Islamic forces in the battle fronts and was thus attacking Iranian cities with weapons "awarded by the East and West."

Esfahan, Hamadan, Bakhtaran Bombed

LD261620 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 26 IRNA — A 10-year-old boy was martyred and 18 others including women and children were wounded in Esfahan Tuesday as Iraqi planes bombarded an inhabited area in the city at 15:30 hours (12:00 GMT).

Enemy planes also fired rockets on the city of Hamadan at 12:00 GMT today but no report on casualties or damage were immediately available.

Bakhtaran in western Iran was also hit by Iraqi rockets at 13:30 hours (10:00 GMT) Tuesday. Reports on possible casualties or losses are not yet available.

Reporters Visit Attack Sites

LD261724 Tehran IRNA in English 1705 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 26, IRNA — A group of foreign reporters today inspected the remains from an Iraqi aerial attack on two areas in southern Tehran. The group was welcomed by local residents, who shouted slogan's demanding Iran's continued fighting with Iraq until a final victory.

The reporters inspecting the area shot photographs and film and spoke with the relatives of nine martyrs in the 13th of Aban area of Tehran. The rocket fired at the area destroyed two homes and damaged 10 other homes and shops.

Later on the group also visited the (Kianshahr) area, where one half-finished mosque, two homes and a shop received considerable damage by another rocket. There were no casualties there.

Velayati on UN Recommendations

LD261743 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 26, IRNA — In a letter to the Indian minister of state for external affairs Kurshid Alam Khan today, the Iranian foreign minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, said that the Baghdad government has repeatedly disregarded recommendations by the U.N. secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar for a mutual halting by Tehran and Baghdad of attacks against non-military targets in the two countries.

He said by indulging in a new spate of attacks against residential areas in Iran and also by missiling oil tankers and commercial vessels in the Persian Gulf the Iraqi Government has made it too clear that it does not respect international conventions.

He said despite solemn urges by the U.N. secretary general the Baghdad government has all the same continued with its deployment of lethal chemical weapons against the Iranians.

The foreign minister reminded that in a bid to dissuade Baghdad from continued attacks upon residential areas in Iran, the Islamic Government had on March 25th hit Baghdad with a surface-to-surface missile but noted that in view of the civilian lives involved in any retaliatory attacks the Islamic Republic is as a principle reluctant to resort to retaliatory measures involving the lives of civilians in Iraq.

Iraq Violates Airspace

LD261744 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 26 Mar 85

["Iraqi Air Raids Foiled" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, March 26, IRNA — Iraqi aircraft violated the air space of Khorramabad, in Lorestan Province, at 19:45 and 19:55 hours local time (16:15 and 16:25 hours GMT) Monday intending to bombard the residential areas of the city. The enemy planes were forced to flee before carrying out any missions.

Iraqi planes also attacked the border city of Bostan in Khuzestan Province at 13:45 (10:15 GMT) today which did not inflict human

casualities. The city was air raided by intruding Iraqi planes Monday during which one civilian was martyred and two others wounded.

The air space of Nahavand, in Hamadan Province was violated by Iraqi planes at 15:30 hours local time (12:00 hours GMT) Tuesday. The planes also broke the sound barrier of the city. The Iraqi aircraft were forced to flee by the anti-aircraft defence units stationed in the region.

An Iraqi jet fighter violated the air space of Qazvin, in Zanjan Province, at 02:00 a.m. Tuesday (23:30 GMT Monday) but was forced to retreat after breaking the sound barrier.

Communique No 2,054

LD261839 Tehran IRNA in English 1830 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 26 IRNA — The Islamic combatants paralysed activities of Iraqi military units in one of the north-western fronts by opening heavy artillery and mortar fire upon them and forcing them to retreat while sustaining human and material casualties.

A military communique of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces numbered 2054 and issued today further said that Iraqi fire was extinguished and enemy troops sustained casualities and losses in the western border fronts of Ilam and Bakhtaran during the past 24 hours.

In the southern fronts opposite Bostan, Dehloran and Arvand River coasts, the gendarmerie forces checked Iraqi engineering activities and movements, stopped their fire and inflicted casualties and losses upon them.

Five Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded while three weaponry positions were destroyed in Abadan operational regions during the said period.

The cities of Sanandaj (in Kordestan Province), Abhar and Qazvin (in Zanjan Province) and Tehran were air raided by Iraqi aircraft at 01:25, 01:30 and 01:35 hours Tuesday (21:55, 22:00, and 22:05 hours GMT Monday). The aircraft were forced to flee by the anti-aircraft defence units and the jet fighters of the Air Force.

In Tehran, several housing units and a mosque were damaged and nine civilians were martyred and five others injured as the aircraft dropped several bombs upon residential areas.

Also, said the communique, Hamadan (in Hamadan Pr.), Bakhtaran (in Bakhtaran Pr.) and Esfahan (in Esfahan Pr.) were attacked by Iraqi warplanes at 15:25, 15:30 and 15:40 hours (11:55, 12:00 and 12:10 hours GMT) today. The aircraft were forced to flee by Iran's anti-aircraft units.

However, damages were inflicted in Esfahan and Hamadan and one civilian was martyred and 22 others wounded as the enemy planes dropped some rockets on residential areas in the two cities, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

Tehran Attacked, 3 Dead

LD270310 Tehran IRNA in English 0307 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — An intruding Iraqi plane violated the airspace of Tehran 02:30 hrs Wednesday (23:00 GMT Tuesday), bombarding a residential unit in eastern Tehran. At least three people were martyred and four others wounded as a result of the attack. Five of the victims including those martyred were members of a family.

The plane also fired a rocked on an uninhabited area which did not inflict casualties but broke windows of nearby houses.

Hoseyniyeh Attack Repulsed

GF270500 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit from Ahvaz, the Iraqi regime, as a consequence of the disgraceful defeat suffered by them in the victorious Badr operations in the Hawr al-Hawizah region and in order to boost the shaky morale of their soldiers and to attract public support, attacked the Islamic forces with heavy artillery and other long-range weapons in the Hoseyniyeh region with fresh units at 0430 [0100 GMT] yesterday morning [as heard].

The correspondent of the Central News Unit quoted a commander of this operation as saying that as a result of this attack the vigilant Islamic forces repulsed all the attacks by the Saddamist forces by heroic efforts. They killed or wounded several Iraqi soldiers, forcing them to retreat. A number of bodies are lying in the battlefield area between the two forces.

6th Missile Fired at Baghdad

LD270937 Tehran IRNA in English 0934 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — A missile was fired at Baghdad today, shaking the pillars of the Iraqi regime once again. Iran's 6th missile was fired at 1:21 pm (09:51 GMT) in retaliation for Iraqi aerial attacks on Tehran today and Tuesday and on Esfahan, Hamadan, Bakhtaran and a number of other cities on Tuesday.

A total of 12 people, including women and children, were martyred in early morning Iraqi raids on Tehran today and Tuesday. Eighteen people were hospitalised.

Statement on Missile Attack

LD271022 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — The Islamic Republic fired a missile at the Iraqi capital at 1:21 pm (09:51 GMT) Wednesday, in reply to attacks against Iranian cities, including twice against Tehran in two days. The War Information HQ said in a statement that Baghdad would be a target of missile attacks again if the Iraqi regime refused to stop attacks on Iranian cities and commercial ships in the Persian Gulf, and does not stop the use of chemical weapons.

"As it has been explicitly announced previously, Iran has no desire to turn Baghdad into a ruin with missile attacks," it said. "The only reason for firing the 6th missile at Baghdad was the continuing hard-headedness of the ruling Aflaqi regime in Iraq."

It added: "We have never desired the residents of Iraqi cities to become refugees and we have never been gratified or be gratified [as received] by creating fear and terror among the non-military people, unlike the Baghdad rulers.

"But, according to the explicit words of God, the dastardly acts of the enemies of Islam must be replied firmly so that sedition would be eliminated.

"We have only done so, and will continue."

Artillery 'Pounds' Iraqi Towns

LD271117 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] According to an IRNA report from Ahvaz in response to Iraqi air raids on our cities, artillery units of the Armed Forces and the guards started pounding southern Iraqi border towns from dawn this morning.

According to this report, the economic and industrial installations in Basra, Abu al Khasib, Al-Zubayr, Al-Faw, Tannumah, Al-Sibah and Ziyadiyah in Basra Province were pounded by Iranian artillery this morning. The shelling of these towns continued until noon.

According to this report, the shelling of Basra Province disrupted traffic on the supply roads of Al-Faw-Basra, Basra-Nasiryah, Basra-Tannumah, and Basra-Al-'Imarah. Communications between Iraq's 3d and 4th corps south of Al-'Imarah and east of Basra were also disrupted, and the two corps faced serious logistic difficulties.

The report adds: Having all the coordinates of Basra, the combatants of Islam confined their shelling to economic and military installations, the governorate building, the security organization building, the Basra branch of the Ba'th Party, the port and shipping installations, the coast guards garrison, and the communications system.

So far there have been no accurate reports on the extent of losses and casualties. But a number of fires have been observed in the oil installations in the suburbs of Basra.

Gilan-e Gharb Bombed

LD271157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] A number of enemy planes attacked Qazvin, Zanjan, Khorramabad, and Borujerd at midnight last night. The Islamic Forces' antiaircraft fire forced them to flee before they could cause any damage. While fleeing, they broke the sound barrier over the said areas.

Also, according to a Central News Unit report, at 1030 hours today, aggressor enemy aircraft bombed the resisting city of Gilan-e Gharb, wrecking a number of houses, offices, and shops.

Commentary on City Attacks

LD261134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1057 GMT 25 Mar 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The struggle between good and evil has had different manifestations throughout history. In this struggle, the forces of good have always relied on the principles of humanitarian standards because all these struggles by the justice-seeking people have been continued in order to safeguard those principles.

The victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the war imposed on it by the Iraqi regime and its arrogant benefactors were proof of the historical struggle between the forces of good and evil. Since the very beginning of the aggression launched by the Iraqi regime on the territory of Islamic Iran, our country's officials have always based their actions on the principles of consideration for humanitarian-Islamic standards, regardless of any idea of mere victory. Rather, they have approached the principle of our faith as a veritable victory; so much so that during all the years when the Iraqi regime, despite its military defeats, kept up its attacks on civilian targets, our country's authorities demonstrated self-restraint and put up with considerable difficulties. However, when the Iraqi regime, in the absence of any serious protests by international legal quarters, felt totally free to bring civilian areas under attack, the Islamic Republic of Iran resorted to retaliation in kind, demonstrating that it could always have a forceful response for Iraq. Nevertheless, our country's authorities persisted in excluding civilian areas from military attacks.

The Badr operations, launched in order to annihilate the Iraqi forces in Hur al-Huwayzah, were in themselves a response to inhuman operations by the Iraqi regime with regard to civilian areas in Iran. These operations, which were presented by the arrogant mass media as a fateful and major offensive, despite the statements by our country's authorities, achieved their predetermined and stage-by-stage objectives, culminating in the Iranian forces stationing their units in the liberated areas.

When this imposed war was launched, Iran persisted in its reasonable demands, the most important of which being punishment of the aggressor. This demand has always been interpreted as jingoism by the mass media affiliated with global arrogance as well as by the circles and bodies where the dominant powers and their benefactors have great influence. But the operations launched by the Iraqi regime in invading Iranian territory, bombing civilian areas, striking at merchant vessels in the Persian Gulf, and the use of chemical weapons have never been denounced by these same circles.

Similarly, the unprecedented statement by the Iraqi regime in declaring Iranian airspace as an exclusion zone for civilian aircraft — a clear violation of international law — was not condemned by any of these so-called bodies that claim to be

guardians of world peace. This is happening at a time when our country's president declared that if the Iraqi regime carries out its threat with regard to passenger aircraft, then we would raze Baghdad airport.

To demonstrate its goodwill, the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday repeated its earlier statement to the effect that the Islamic Republic of Iran would refrain from attacking Iraqi towns if there were no bombings of civilian and nonmilitary targets by the Iraqi regime over the past 24 hours. However, it was not long before the Iraqi regime attacked two nonmilitary vessels in the Persian Gulf.

The Iraqi regime and its backers are trying to distort the legitimate demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran by extending the war from the battlefronts to civilian regions, thus imposing a peace on the Islamic Revolution of Iran that would definitely be worse than the war. However, global arrogance must sooner or later arrive at the conclusion that safeguarding the humanitarian-Islamic principles and values by the Iranian nation in itself is considered to be the greatest of victories. On this, both the people and the officials are united.

Commentary on Missile Production

GF261734 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 26 Mar 85

[From the "Political Followups" program]

[Excerpts] International news agencies have said that the missile attacks on Baghdad have given a new dimension to the Iraqi-Iranian war, and this has been affirmed by military experts. However, a more serious aspect of this dimension is the announcement that these missiles, which have threatened targets in the heart of the Iraqi capital with infinite accuracy, were made in Iran. The Islamic Republic's use of these missiles based on logical calculations is another indication of the wisdom of the Islamic decision and the concerned officials.

Despite the Islamic Republic's possession of a large number of missiles and its ability to replace those that it uses by manufacturing them locally, it is still exercising great reserve in using them. Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed to a crowd during his prayers sermon at Tehran University that we do not want to use more of these missiles because we are determined to use them against the Zionist enemy. The Islamic Republic also considers that the confrontation arena with the atheist Ba'thist regime is solely at the battlefronts. However, it has been obliged to reluctantly attack nonmilitary targets in Baghdad and other Iraqi cities in response to aggression in order to defend our citizens and to safeguard the safety of our cities.

It seems that international imperialism has not learned from the experiences of the past 6 years of the revolution, during which our people have proved that they can face up to challenges, become more masterful in times of adversity, and become stronger as their tribulations intensify. Imperialist circles commit errors time and again in their dealings with the Islamic revolution, without learning from their mistakes. At this point, it must be stressed that our people will not become weaker or surrender and the blood of our martyrs will merely act as fuel for enhancing life's flame and its burning.

The economic blockade being imposed merely incites our people to double their efforts in construction, production, and manufacturing. Military aggression has merely stimulated them to achieve victories on the battlefronts throughout the war years. The anti-Islamic revolution media have not affected anything except to bring about more cohesion between the revolution and its people. International imperialism undertook to discharge its anger and hatred in a bid to overcome a great thing called the Islamic Republic which is capable of confronting challenges, has been victorious in more than one field, and has achieved many miracles. The enemies of God can only respond to these miracles by sighing in the wake of disappointments, losses, and humiliations.

AFP: PRC, Iran Sign $1.6 Billion Arms Deal

AU271220 Paris AFP in English 1208 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] London, March 27 (AFP) — Iran and China have signed an agreement under which China will provide Tehran with arms worth 1.6 billion dollars, according to the London-based Arab language newsletter *AL-TAQRIR* (The Report).

According to the newsletter, considered close to Iraq by well-informed Arab circles here, who treat its reports with prudence, the agreement provides for the delivery over the next two years of Soviet designed military equipment manufactured in China. The agreement was said to have been signed in Tehran this month by the Iranian Armed Forces chief of staff, Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi and by Zhang Jingfu, a senior adviser to the Chinese prime minister, who headed a top level Chinese mission to Tehran during the month.

The newsletter said the weapons would include 12 Shen Yang F6 fighters — copies of the old Soviet MIG 19's — 200 T-59 tanks derived from the Soviet T-54 models, 122 and 130 mm guns, copies of the Soviet SAM 2 and SAM 7 missiles and rocket-launchers. The whole deal would be carried out through a company specially set up for the purpose and Iran would pay China for the weapons partially in oil, two million tons over the next two years, and partially in cash, the newsletter said. The Iranian Embassy declined to comment on the report today.

Commentary on Iraqi Ties to U.S., Jordan, Egypt

GF270620 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Unattributed commentary entitled "Washington Is Grateful to the Baghdad Rulers"]

[Text] From the very beginning of the Iraqi-imposed war against the Islamic Republic, authorities in our country have been saying that this is a war initiated by the blasphemous world system and atheism against the Islamic Revolution in Iran. The proof and clarification of this view depended on the passage of time, the expansion of the battlefronts into political fields and the existing alignment of political groups in international politics.

After more than 4 years of Iraqi attacks on our country and the defense by our nation in safeguarding its aspirations, our homeland has seen many incidents. If these incidents had occurred a few years earlier, it would have surprised everybody. The Iraqi regime with its anti-American slogans has now begun to hold talks about the imposed war with the same country that had in the past labelled it a terrorist country, and is trying its very best to align with the United States. A couple of days ago the Iraqi foreign minister met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and discussed the war.

The political party alignments in the Middle East and the positions adopted by them in the international field have revealed their true nature. Such meetings can also reveal their true intent. Now that a union between Egypt, Iraq, and Jordan has been completed and has shown the realities in the region, it is only natural that the president of Egypt, after his visit to Washington, went to Jordan to see King Husayn so that he could review military operations, and the appearance of Iranian missiles at close range.

The war which Saddam started with the financial, political, and military aid of the world oppressors and the hypocrites of the region so that he could quickly become the hero of the victory of Gadesiyyeh [an historic city in Chaldea] is now linked with his own very existence. Therefore, the U.S.- Iraqi alliance is taking clear shape. The Iraqi regime has tried in various ways to see if it could get out of this difficulty safely.

Attacking residential areas in our country from the beginning of the war was one of the most important efforts of the Saddamist regime. But now that the Islamic regime has shown that despite the aid that Iraq is getting from Egypt, it is stronger. The Iraqi regime has now learned that the fires it lit in our residential areas have enveloped the capital of Iraq with more furious flames.

DIE WELT Reports on Suicide Commando Plan

DW261236 Bonn DIE WELT in German 25 Mar 85 p 7

[Article signed DW.: "In the Air, at Sea, and on the Ground"]

[Text] Bonn — The dictatorship of the Iranian mullahs is obviously seeking to spread the Islamic revolution world-wide by employing the means of terrorist war. A secret document whose authenticity was confirmed by Western intelligence experts following close examination was played into *DIE WELT*'s hands by the Iranian opposition in exile (see facsimile excerpt). This document reveals that this war was decided on about a year ago by the Iranian leadership, including Khomeyni himself. The preparatory phase of 1 year will end in these weeks.

The document contains minutes of a secret meeting in which the chiefs of general staff of the three armed services, a direct representative of Khomeyni, and other high-ranking regime officials took part. A certain Mirhashem had convened the meeting in Khomeyni's name. The discussion shows that this Mirhashem is a well-known politician of the regime who organizes and directs the terrorist war under this code name. The meeting took place in Tehran early in May 1984.

At first, Khomeyni's representative informs the participants in a sort of description of the motivation of the terrorist war that the "imam" (Khomeyni) is very annoyed at — as he says — "the so-called Islamic leadership" of the Gulf states. He expects Muslims to have a different attitude toward the Islamic revolution. But at the beginning of Islam, the situation had been the same, he said. The "imam" particularly reproached the Saudis and Kuwaitis with having "sold" their countries "to the enemy." Khomeyni's man quotes his master: "We have a great obligation toward the Koran, Islam, and the Prophet. It is our task to spread Islam everywhere, throughout the world. We have shed much blood for this and we will shed much more until with God's help we will triumph." The first goal is "liberating all Islamic countries from their corrupt leaders." That is very difficult in the present situation, because these countries are supplied with weapons by the enemies and superpowers. Therefore, subversion is the only means left. Khomeyni's man informs the meeting about the revolutionary leader's decision: "We must create a brigade of martyr commandos," preferably in Lebanon. The leader of the revolution would decide on their cover later on he says.

In the second part of the minutes, Mirhashem explains some details from a 200-page planning document which the participants in the meeting obviously also had before them. According to this document, the commandos are to be ready for action in Iran and Lebanon. They are to consist of no more than 10-20 men. They are suicide groups. According to Mirhashem, a suicide fighter has the following characteristics: He has graduated from high-school with a final examination, is no older than 30 years, preferably unmarried, has front experience of the war against Iraq, is absolutely loyal to the regime, and highly motivated, meaning fanatically religious. Within 1 year, a total of 1,500-2,000 such fighters will be trained.

Mirhashem subdivides the action plan into 3 phases. Beginning immediately, a propaganda campaign is to be started. Since the middle of the past year, an intensified fanatic Islamic agitation and propaganda has in fact been observed particularly in Lebanon and the Gulf countries where sections of the people are Shi'ites. Here the mullahs and imams have a special task. According to Mirhashem, they are to benevolently discuss in their sermons Khomeyni's proposal time and again that the sanctuaries in Mecca and Medina be put under the control of a body of priests from all Islamic countries, so that the administration of the sanctuaries is no longer the Saudis' responsibility.

In the second phase, propaganda will be intensified and in the month of Islamic pilgrimage, it will be accompanied by a number of actions. The loyal revolutionary Khoiniha will be in charge of this task. He has been entrusted with it on the "imam's" request. Khoiniha is a revolutionary of the first hour. He is the man who planned and organized the occupation of the U.S. Embassy in the late autumn of 1979.

In the third phase, the commandos will enter into action. They will "wage war in the air, at sea, and on the ground of enemy territory." Documents and information are to be gathered from all embassies abroad and from all armed services, so as to study the situation in the areas of operation and to create the necessary infrastructure for the actions.

Mirhashem subdivides the "enemy territory" into three categories. First: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain. Second: Jordan. Third: France and all countries that are enemies of the Islamic Republic. All the mentioned Arab countries are supported by the superpowers, Mirhashem says, and there is "no other way but to overthrow these regimes from within."

The lecturer devotes a separate chapter to Iraq. After having guaranteed the 12th Imam's assistance and having predicted Saddam Husayn's overthrow, Mirhashem mentions a commando Ayadzadeh Hakim which he says will soone be ready for military operations in Iraq. This name originates from one of Khomeyni's followers who was caught and executed by the Iraqi authorities. Possibly the actions of the commando have something to do with the recent explosions in Baghdad's banking quarters, which Tehran claimed were Iranian missile attacks.

By order of Mirhashem, only experienced officers and non-commissioned officers from the Army, Air Force, and Navy will be relied on for training the suicide commandos. Preference is given to members of the former intelligence service Savak. For operations from the air, the suicide candidates will be trained on small light aircraft, possibly these are helicop- tors. For this end, a special base will be set up near Tehran, allowing the suicide pilots to be trained, screened from other airforce members. This training should meanwhile be concluded.

It obviously also is not quite so easy for the mullahs to find suicide candidates, because Mirhashem energetically asked the chiefs of general staff of the three armed services and the supreme commander of the guards of the revolution who take part in the meeting to try and find suitable volunteers. If necessary, he says, volunteers from abroad, which means in particular in Lebanon, must be recruited. Recruiting must be started immediately. Training of some commandos could already be begun, but the desired number of 2,000 candidates had not yet been reached at all, he said.

Mirhashem termed the document top secret. He cautioned the participants in the meeting to observe secrecy about the discus sions. Should there be any questions, they should not be asked in writing but verbally when an occasion presented itself. There was to be no correspondence on this subject, he said.

Envoy Denies Commando Plan

AU270859 Rome ANSA in English 0845 GMT 27 Mar 85

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, March 27 — The Iranian ambassador to Italy has adamantly denied press reports of a worldwide terrorist strategy which, according to the West German *DIE WELT* magazine, was drafted in Tehran in May 1984.

According to the *DIE WELT* document, a "commando-martyr brigade" was made up of 1,500 to 2,000 religious fanatics was also set up last May at the same meeting between Armed Forces and Khomeyni representatives in Tehran.

Afghan Rebels Kill Soviet Advisor in Farah

LD261741 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 26 Mar 85

[Text] Zahedan, Baluchestan va Sistan Pr. March 26, IRNA — Eight tanks and personnel carriers of a Soviet-Karmal army column were completely destroyed and their personnel were killed as they hit mines planted by Afghan Muslim revolutionaries in Farah Province on Sunday.

According to informed Afghan mujahidin sources here a Soviet military advisor was killed and a number of Afghan Government forces were injured as a result of another attack by the mujahidin on the enemy troops in the same region.

The report also said intense battle was raging between Soviet-Karmal forces and the Muslim revolutionaires in the region.